MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

© 18 M 75 November 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUBJECT:

Letelier Investigation

By memorandum dated October 21, 1976, I endorsed your recommendation that appropriate foreign intelligence and counterintelligence information collection be undertaken by the Central Intelligence Agency as outlined in your memorandum of October 9 and further discussed in your letter of the same date to the DCI.

In stating, as a part of that endorsement, that the intelligence investigation be undertaken "in support of the Department of Justice criminal investigation of the Letelier assassination, "I meant also to endorse your statement that, should information be developed during the foreign intelligence and counterintelligence investigation with which CIA was to be tasked, it could be disseminated if such dissemination were permitted by Section 5 of Executive Order 11905 and/or any guidelines promulgated pursuant to that section and did not intend to endorse an investigation by CIA for law enforcement purposes.

cc: Director of Central Intelligence

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11/2 memo to the AG from Mr. Keuch, Re: Letelier investigation. On the basis of info developed during this inv., AG has recommended that CIA be tasked w/a foreign intelligence & counterintelligence inv. to determine whether or not foreign powers and/or their agents were responsible for series of violent activities directed at persons in US and elsewere, possibly including the killing of Letelier. AG's recommendation has been endorsed by the NSC thru Gen. Scowcroft. General Counsel's office of CIA has interpreted AG's ltr as a restriction on their intelligence inv. Attach is draft of ltr for AG to send to CIA Drtr Bush, clarifying the matter. 11/2 to AG

DRAFT RLK:mal 11/2/76

Honorable George Bush Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bush:

By letter dated October 9, 1976, I informed you of my view that information leading to a determination of whether any foreign powers or their agents have been or may be involved in a program of violent activities directed at persons within the United States or elsewhere was a significant foreign intelligence and/or counter intelligence matter. I also advised that it would be my recommendation that the Agency develop such foreign intelligence or counter intelligence information and I recommended that the National Security Council endorse such recommendation, which the National Security has now done by means of a memo dated October 21, 1976, signed by Brent Scowcroft, National Security Advisor to the President.

I understand concern has been expressed by representatives of your General Counsel's office that by my letter of October 9, 1976, I intended to restrict the foreign intelligence and counter intelligence investigation which I recommended your Agency undertake. Specifically the question has been raised as to whether or not information may be developed during your

investigation concerning the possibility that United States persons may be involved.

In view of this concern I would like to clarify my previous letter by stating that it was not my intention to limit any foreign intelligence or counter intelligence investigation undertaken by your Agency into these matters with the understanding, of course, that any investigation would be conducted in a manner consistent with the applicable Executive Order and other rules and regulations including guidelines issued by the Department of Justice to cover certain investigative methods. Information that would disclose that United States persons were involved would obviously be relevant to a proper intelligence determination of whether any foreign powers or their agents have been or may be involved.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Levi